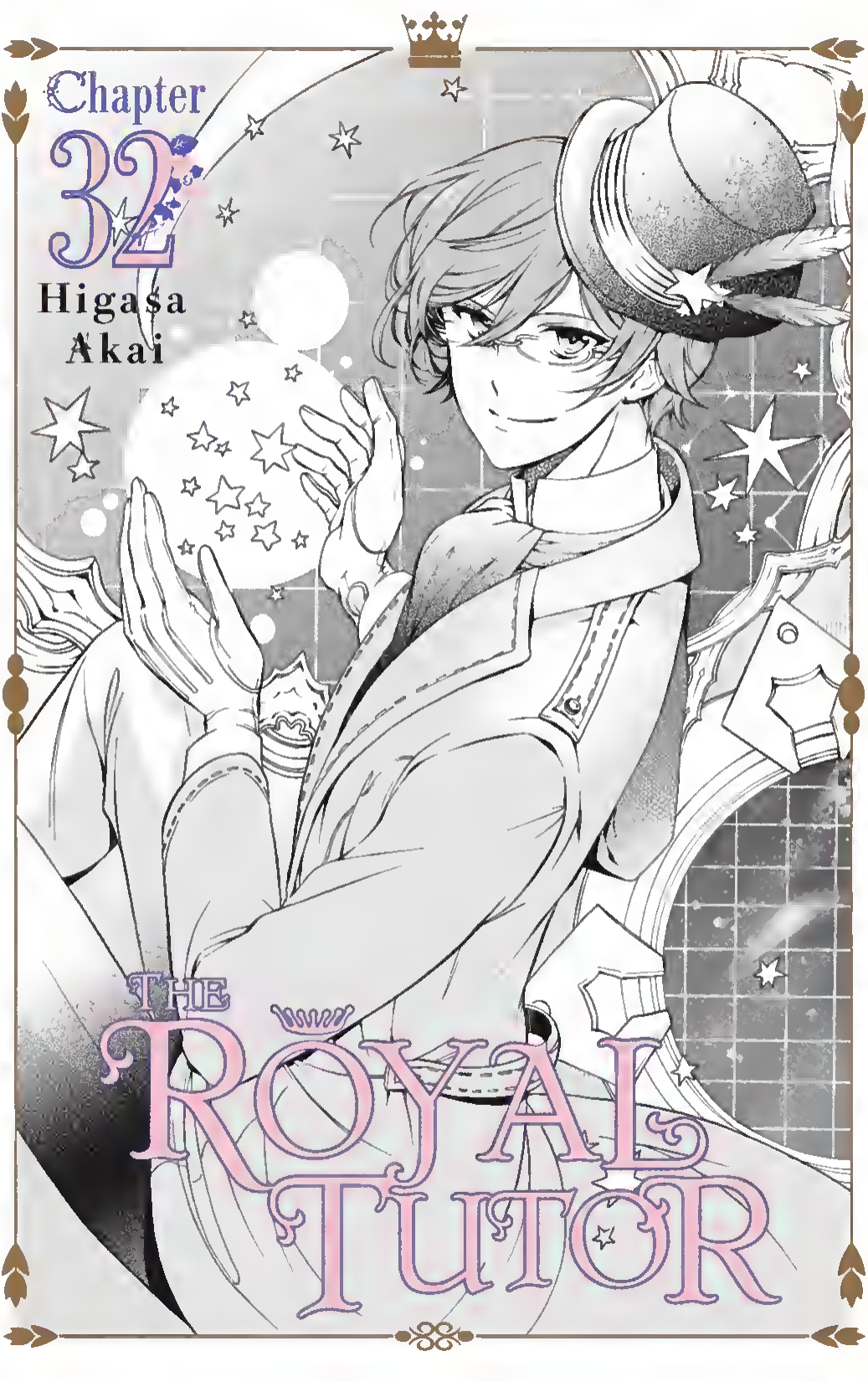

Chapter
32
Higasa
Akai
THE
ROYAL
TUTOR

Chapter 32

A Dream in This Heart

THIS IS THE STRENGTH OF MY RESOLVE TO FOLLOW MY DREAMS.
I WILL TAKE THE THRONE USING THAT WHICH I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN: HARD WORK.
.....
I PRESENTED MY THESIS AND WAS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DOCTOR DMITRI OF OROSZ...
EVERY DAY SINCE THEN HAS FELT FULFILLING... AND YET...
HAAH...

I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SLEEP EVER SINCE DOCTOR DMITRI'S PROPOSAL. THERE HAS BEEN SO MUCH FOR ME TO PONDER...
.....
CREAK
PRINCE BRUNO? ARE YOU UNABLE TO SLEEP?
MASTER ...
...MAS-TER!
KNEEL
M-MAY I ASK YOU FOR YOUR COUNSEL!?
NOW, THEN. WHAT CONCERNS YOU?
DO STAND UP.
YANK
IN FACT, I AM PLEASED THAT YOU HAVE BEGUN TO SEEK THE OPINIONS OF OTHERS.
YES, YES, IT IS ALL RIGHT.
I REALIZE THAT I AM MAKING A BRAZEN DEMAND. MOREOVER, I AM FULLY AWARE I SHOULD NOT SHOW MYSELF TO BE SO PATHETIC BEFORE MY MASTER AND THAT THIS MAKES ME UNFIT TO BE YOUR APPRENTICE, BUT I SIMPLY CANNOT COME TO AN ANSWER BY MYSELF.
SUPER-SERIOUS

HAAH...
MY CONCERN IS THAT I HAVE NO CONCERNS.
...I AM NOT SURE ONE COULD CALL IT A CONCERN, EXACTLY.
I AM CONFIDENT IN MY PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES AND HAVE NO DIFFICULTIES WITH RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING.
HOWEVER, I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED MY STUDIES IN ALL SUBJECTS AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL.
I RENEWED MY RESOLVE TO BECOME KING.
?
TCH!
THIS IS WHY I HATE ELIT-ISTS!
TICKS ME OFF!!
BRAIN LIGHT
I CAN ALMOST HEAR PRINCE LICHT'S BITING REMARKS.
NNNH...
WHAT ELSE COULD THERE POSSIBLY BE FOR A POTENTIAL KING TO LEARN?

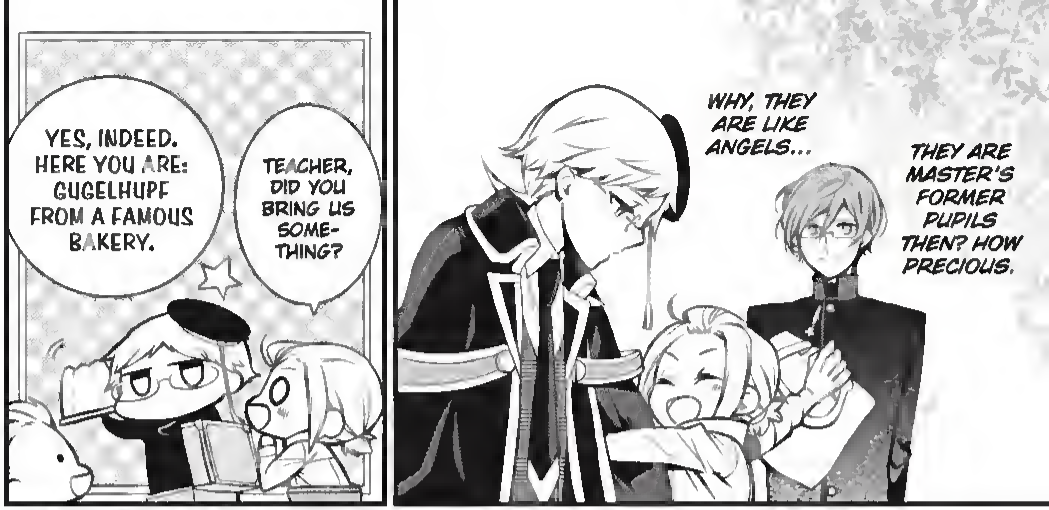
THEREFORE, IF THERE IS ANY PART OF ME THAT WOULD BE FOUND LACKING AS A RULER...
...I BEG YOU, MASTER, ENLIGHTEN ME...!
EVEN WHEN ONE HAS A CLEAR GOAL, THE PATH TO IT CAN BE HAZY, IT IS TRUE.
STILL, I AM ANXIOUS ABOUT CONTINUING WITHOUT TAKING ANY ACTION.
.....
HMM, LET ME SEE...
THERE IS SOMETHING I SHOULD LIKE YOU TO PREPARE BY THEN.
?
WH... AH, YES, I AM.
PRINCE BRUNO. ARE YOU FREE THREE DAYS FROM NOW ON SUNDAY?

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO CREATE WORKSHEETS COVERING VARIOUS ACADEMIC SUBJECTS.
TWO FOR CHILDREN FIVE YEARS OF AGE, AND THREE FOR SEVEN YEARS OF AGE.
TAILOR THE MATERIAL TO BE SUITABLE FOR THOSE AGES, PLEASE.
RATTLE
RATTLE
...WELL, I MADE THEM UP, AS INSTRUCTED.
BUT WHAT THE DEUCE COULD BE THE PURPOSE OF THIS?
RATTLE
RATTLE
MASTER, WE HAVE DRIVEN THROUGH THESE WOODLANDS FOR THIRTY MINUTES NOW.
THIS IS QUITE FAR... WHERE ARE WE GOING...?
RATTLE
AH. PLEASE LET US OFF HERE.

RSTL
RSTL
THE CARRIAGE CANNOT GO ANY FARTHER, SO WE WILL CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY ON FOOT.
EVEN FARTHER INTO THE FOREST ...!?
KCHAK
NOW, BRUNO, I WILL ENTRUST THIS SECRET SCROLL TO YOU.
MASTERRR!
DADOOM
...FOR SECRET TRAINING WHICH MUST REMAIN HIDDEN FROM PRYING EYES...?
WH-WHY WOULD MASTER TAKE ME TO THIS PLACE ALONE?
RSTL
RSTL
?
WE HAVE ARRIVED.
WAIT! COULD IT BE...
RSTL
RSTL
.....!
RSTL

THIS IS WHERE I TAUGHT BEFORE I WAS SUMMONED TO THE PALACE.
IT IS CALLED THE MARIA VETSERA CHURCH.
A CHURCH...? THIS DEEP IN THE FOREST ...?
CREAK
PARDON ME!
KNOCK KNOCK
WH...

PROFESSOR HEINE!!
WH- WHO ARE THESE CHILDREN ...?
WAAAAAH
YOU'RE BACK!!
...OH. INDEED?
I WAS THE TUTOR.
THERE IS A SCHOOL NEARBY AS WELL. THE CHURCH OPENS AS A CLASSROOM FOR TUTORING ON SUNDAYS.
THEY LIVE IN THIS AREA.


YES, INDEED. HERE YOU ARE: GUGELHUPF FROM A FAMOUS BAKERY.
TEACHER, DID YOU BRING US SOME-THING?
WHY, THEY ARE LIKE ANGELS...
THEY ARE MASTER'S FORMER PUPILS THEN? HOW PRECIOUS.

NOTE: GUGELHUPF IS AN AUSTRIAN BUNDT CAKE.

IT IS LOVELY TO SEE YOU, PROFESSOR HEINE. I AM GLAD YOU SEEM WELL.
I PRAY THAT YOU TOO HAVE BEEN WELL, SISTER.
NOW, NOW, DEARS.
HEE!
WHEE!
PINCH
FOR PRINCE BRUNO TO COME ALL THIS WAY FOR US TOO...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE CHILDREN TODAY.
WH...?
NOW, THEN, IT IS TIME I EXPLAINED YOUR TASK FOR THE DAY.

WHAT?
YOUR HIGH-NESS...
...IS TO BE THEIR TEACHER.

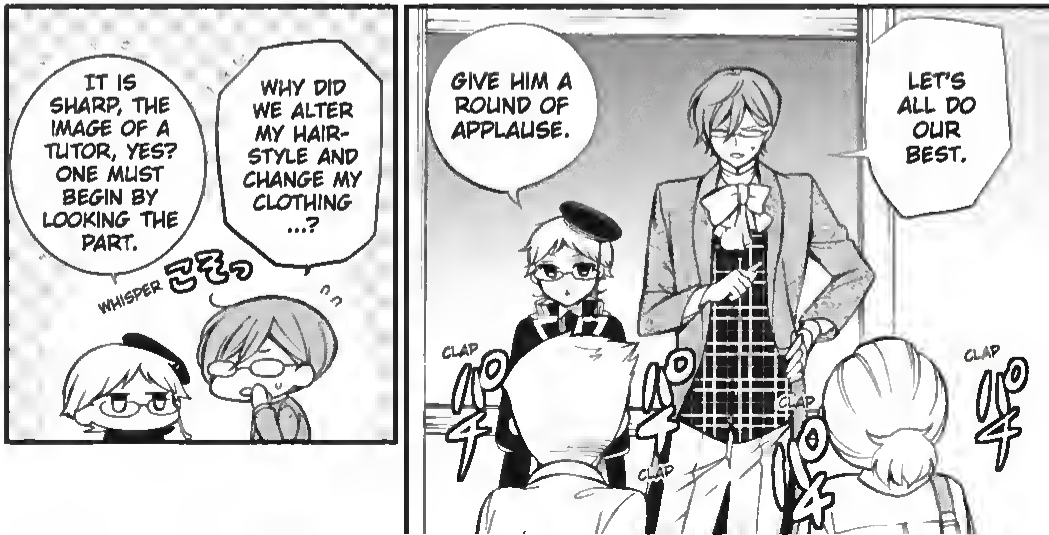
WHAAAT!?
UNDER-STOOD, CHILDREN?
TODAY, HE IS PROFESSOR BRUNO.
OOOH!

I BELIEVE YOU ARE QUITE PREPARED.
THIS IS THE REASON I INSTRUCTED YOU TO CREATE WORKSHEETS.

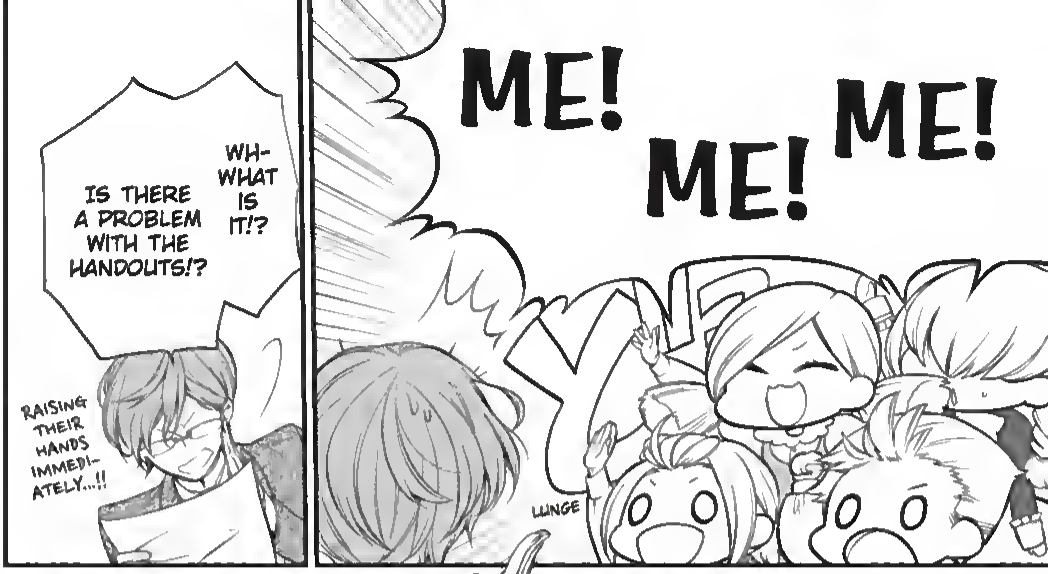
W-WAIT JUST A MOMENT NOW!
THIS IS TOO SUDDEN! I HAVEN'T PREPARED FOR—
TUT, TUT.

B-BUT... MASTER... WHAAA??
WAAAH!
DRAG
DRAG
NOW, LET US GO INSIDE.
WE WILL MEET TO DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS LATER, SHALL WE?

Bruno
TODAY CHILDREN, I SHALL BE YOUR TUTOR.
I AM BRUNO VON GRANZ-REICH.
TAK


IT IS SHARP, THE IMAGE OF A TUTOR, YES? ONE MUST BEGIN BY LOOKING THE PART.
WHY DID WE ALTER MY HAIR-STYLE AND CHANGE MY CLOTHING ...?
WHISPER
GIVE HIM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.
LET'S ALL DO OUR BEST.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

YOU'RE NOT GONNA TEACH US, PROFESSOR HEINE?
"UHH-SIS-TEEN"?
I, HEINE, WILL BE ASSISTING PROFESSOR BRUNO.
I AM TASKING PROFESSOR BRUNO WITH MOST OF THE TEACHING.
IF IT HAPPENS THE PROFESSOR IS PREOCCUPIED, THEN YOU MAY CALL FOR ME.
OKAAAY!
AHEM. WITH THAT, I WILL BE GIVING EACH OF YOU WORKSHEETS FROM WHICH YOU WILL STUDY FOR THE DAY.
FIRST, FIVE-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS, COME UP FRONT.
WHILE I CANNOT FATHOM HIS INTENTIONS BEHIND HAVING ME TEACH...
...SO LONG AS IT IS A LESSON OF SOME SORT, I MUST PERFORM PERFECTLY.
...THERE. IF YOU COME UPON ANY PROBLEMS YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, RAISE YOUR HAND.


WH-WHAT IS IT!?
IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH THE HANDOUTS!?
RAISING THEIR HANDS IMMEDIATELY...!!
ME! ME! ME!
LUNGE

HUH?
YOUR HIGHNESS, DO YOU LIVE IN A PALACE?

WHAT'S THE KING LIKE?
DO ALL OUR PRINCES LOOK COOL?
WHICH DO YOU LIKE BETTER, DOGS OR CATS?
WHAT'S YOUR LEAST-FAVORITE FOOD?
WHAT DO YOU DO EVERY DAY?
ME!
PICK ME!

PWOOSH
EEEE~
PRINCE BRUNO, DO YOU HAVE A GIRRRRL-FRIEND?
BLUUUSH
WH... WHAT ARE YOU.....?
A...A... GIRL-FRIEND...?
...NH!
'COS HE DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND...
OHHH, I GET IT!
I BET IT'S 'COS HE DOESN'T HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND.
N...
NO QUESTIONS UNRELATED TO YOUR STUDIES ALLOWED!
Awwww~

SLAM
FLINCH
...THIS CLASS-ROOM IS AVAILABLE TO US BECAUSE OF THE KINDNESS OF THE CHURCH.
I WILL NOT STAND FOR THIS DIGNIFIED PLACE OF STUDY TO BE DISTURBED BY THOSE WITH FRIVOLOUS ATTITUDES.
ANYONE WHO WOULD RATHER CHAT AND PLAY MAY SEE THEMSELVES OUT AT ONCE.

WHOOOOSH
THAT IS ALL.

.....

GOOD. THEY ARE ATTENDING TO THE WORK-SHEETS NOW...
...BUT THEY'RE NOT ASKING ANY QUES-TIONS.
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
DO THEY TRULY FULLY UNDER-STAND THEIR STUDIES?

SILENCE

.....
SILENCE
JUST TO BE SURE, I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU...
IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND OR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU ARE TO RAISE YOUR HAND.
YOU THERE, IN THE SECOND ROW.
YOU'VE STOPPED WRITING.
THERE IS A QUESTION YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, YES?
FLINCH
I CAN DO IT BY MYSELF...
N-NO...
MURMUR
MURMUR
EXCUSE ME. I NEED TO FRESHEN UP.
VERY WELL. WE WILL BE HERE.

WHAT AM I TO DOOOO !!?
AH
SLUMP
.....

.....
DID MY REPRI-MAND MAKE THEM SHRINK FROM ME...?
I CANNOT SATISFACTO-RILY PERFORM AS THEIR TEACHER TODAY IF THIS CARRIES ON.
ALLOWING THEM TO GO WILD WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THEIR STUDIES...
...BUT NOW THAT I'VE ESTABLISHED ORDER, THEY SEEM TO BE AVOIDING SPEAKING TO ME...

CREAK
MURMUR
PRINCE BRUNO.
HMMM.
BUT...IT IS NOT AS THOUGH I SAID ANYTHING ERRONEOUS ...
SHLIT
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE STEPPED OUT TO THINK.
JOLT
... MASTER?
ENER-GETIC?
THEY ARE MOST ENERGETIC, YES.
GLOOM
SO... BOIS-TER-OUS? SO.....
M-MAY I ASK, MASTER...
...ARE THEY ALWAYS LIKE THAT...?

.....
THE SAME COULD BE SAID OF THEIR SILENCE NOW.
HOWEVER, IT IS UNCOMMON FOR THEM TO BECOME THAT ROWDY.
PARDON?
...IT MUST BE ON MY ACCOUNT THEN.
I AM NOT A REAL TEACHER.
PERHAPS THAT IS WHY INSTRUCTING STUDENTS IS SO... CHALLENGING FOR ME.
.....
PRINCE BRUNO.
THIS EXPLAINS WHY I CANNOT SEEM TO COME TO AN UNDER-STANDING WITH THEM...

—!
IF YOUR HIGHNESS CANNOT EVEN INSTRUCT THE FEW CHILDREN HERE...
...HOW WILL YOU BE ABLE TO LEAD A KINGDOM OF MILLIONS AS THEIR MONARCH?

WHAT DID I THINK I WAS SEEING ALL THIS TIME?
WHAT ELSE COULD THERE POSSIBLY BE FOR A POTENTIAL KING TO LEARN?

I HAVE NOT BECOME ANYTHING CLOSE TO A MAN FIT TO BE KING...

WELL... IF YOU SAY YOU CANNOT DO IT...
...I CAN TAKE YOUR PLACE.

...FORGIVE ME.
I WILL PROVE TO YOU THAT I CAN PROPERLY ASSUME THE ROLE OF TUTOR.
PLEASE ALLOW ME ONE MORE CHANCE.

I SEE THE TRUTH NOW. IF THIS IS MY MEASURE AS A MAN, I COULD NEVER BE KING.
I MUST MEET THEM HALFWAY...
ZWIP
AH!
HAAH!...
.....

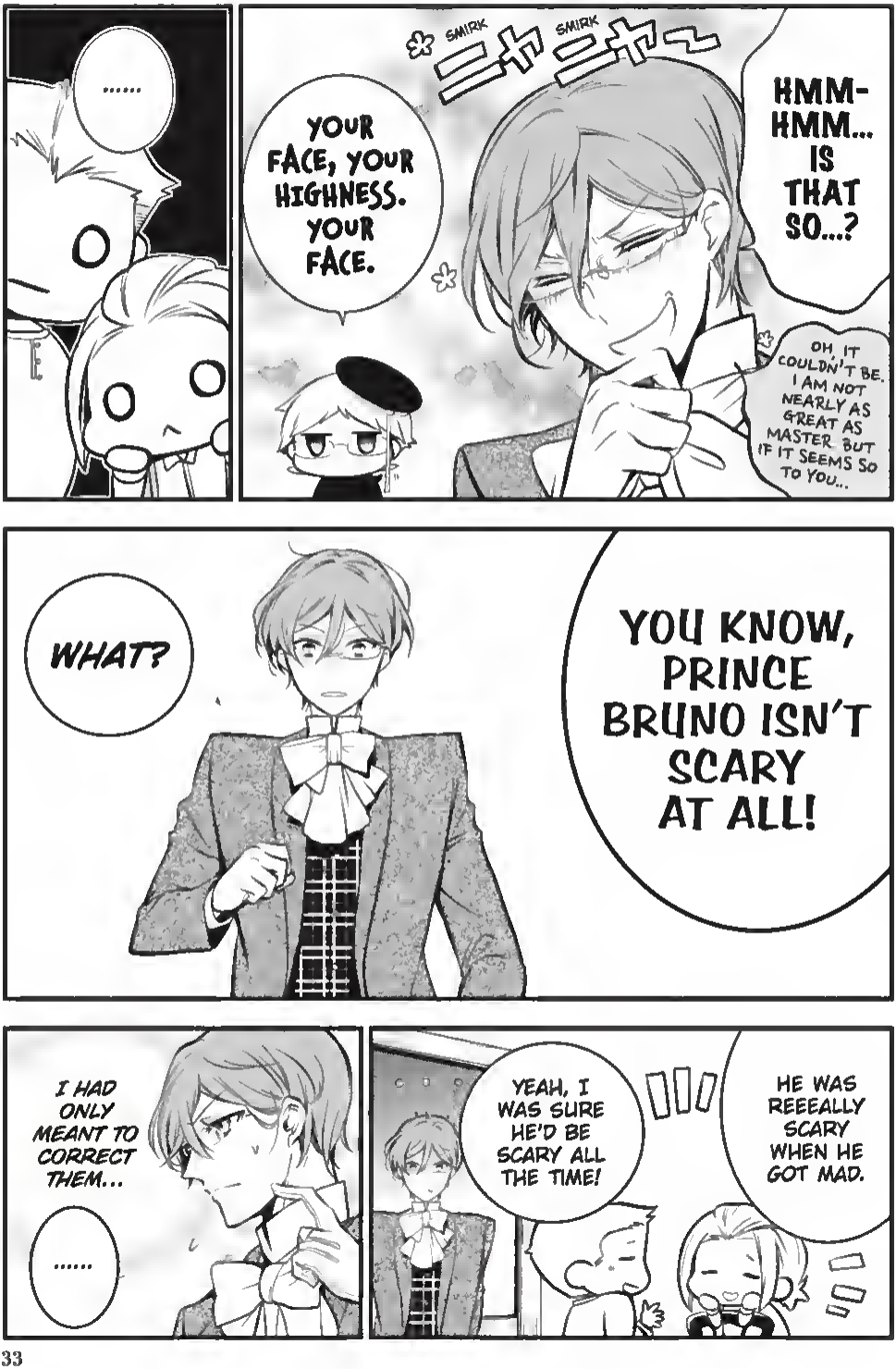
REGARDING YOUR EARLIER QUESTIONS...
...SADLY, I DO NOT HAVE A GIRLFRIEND!
!!?
YES, THE ROYAL FAMILY LIVES IN THE PALACE.
I TYPICALLY SPEND MY TIME READING AND STUDYING.
IF I HAD TO CHOOSE A LEAST-FAVORITE FOOD, IT WOULD BE LIVER.
I PREFER DOGS TO CATS!
BECAUSE WE HAVE A PET DOG!

AS FAR AS HIS MAJESTY THE KING, I RESPECT HIM BOTH AS A MONARCH AND AS MY FATHER.
MY BROTHERS... AS THEIR FAMILY, I CANNOT OBJECTIVELY JUDGE WHETHER THEY ARE GOOD-LOOKING.
HOWEVER, THEY OFTEN RECEIVE COMPLIMENTS FROM OTHERS.
I BELIEVE THAT ANSWERS ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS.
STAAARE
I WOULD LIKE TO START BY TEACHING YOU CHILDREN ABOUT MYSELF.
...I UNDERSTAND THAT ASKING YOU TO REGARD SOMEONE YOU HAVE ONLY JUST MET AS YOUR TEACHER IS A TALL ORDER.

THERE-FORE, SHOULD YOU HAVE QUESTIONS UNRELATED TO YOUR STUDIES...
...DO NOT HOLD BACK. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK AWAY.
I WILL ANSWER ANY QUESTION.
UH... UHH...
.....
NO, IT IS NOT THAT LARGE.
I AM SURE IT IS MUCH SMALLER THAN YOU ARE IMAGINING.
WOW, REALLY...?
GLOW
UM, MY ROOM IS REALLY SMALL.
SINCE YOU'RE A PRINCE, IS YOUR ROOM REALLY, REALLY BIG?
CLATTER

HIS NAME IS SHADOW.
HE IS SO CLOSE TO MY SISTER ADELE. THEY ARE PRACTICALLY SIBLINGS.
WHOA! WITH THE PRINCESS!?
ME TOO! I HAVE A QUES-TION TOO!
YOU SAID YOU HAVE A PET DOG, RIGHT? I WANNA KNOW MORE ABOUT HIM!
SHE LIKES DRAWING AND READING PICTURE BOOKS.
HEY, THAT SOUNDS LIKE US!
OOH! OOH! WHAT DOES PRINCESS ADELE LIKE?

WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE YOU STUCK ON A PROBLEM AFTER ALL?
FLINCH
びくっ
HMM, HMM... HERE YOU...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT. WE CAN SOLVE IT TOGETHER.
THERE YOU HAVE IT! A JOB WELL DONE!
PRINCE BRUNO! WE DON'T GET THIS PART!
EH HEH HEH!
YOUR TEACHING IS EASY TO UNDERSTAND!
LIKE PROFESSOR HEINE'S!


.....
SMIRK
ニヤニヤ
SMIRK
YOUR FACE, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOUR FACE.
HMM-HMM... IS THAT SO...?
OH, IT COULDN'T BE. I AM NOT NEARLY AS GREAT AS MASTER BUT IF IT SEEMS SO TO YOU...
WHAT?
YOU KNOW, PRINCE BRUNO ISN'T SCARY AT ALL!
I HAD ONLY MEANT TO CORRECT THEM...
.....
YEAH, I WAS SURE HE'D BE SCARY ALL THE TIME!
HE WAS REEEALLY SCARY WHEN HE GOT MAD.

DON'T APOLOGIZE! YOU GOTTA TAKE IT EASY!
NAH, IT'S OKAY. WE GOT TOO EXCITED.
I AM SORRY. I DID NOT INTEND TO FRIGHTEN YOU...
PERHAPS I DID COME DOWN TOO HARD ON YOU.
SPENDING ALL OF MY TIME IN MY ROOM STUDYING AT MY DESK COULD NOT TEACH ME THIS.
...MERELY IMPOSING RULES UPON OTHERS DOES NOT CONVEY ONE'S TRUE INTENTION.
THERE IS STILL MUCH I LACK.
I WISH TO ROOT OUT THOSE SHORT-COMINGS...
...TO BECOME A MAN MORE WORTHY OF KINGSHIP... LITTLE BY LITTLE.....

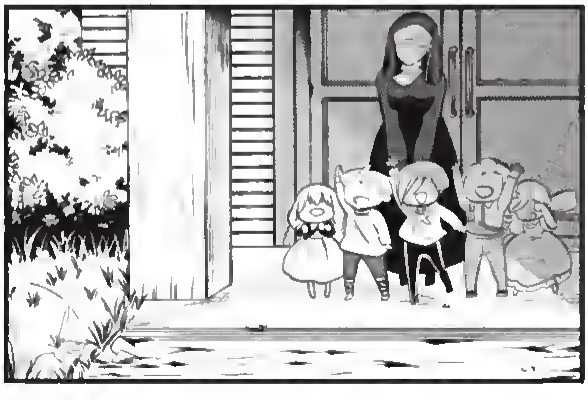
WAIT!
THAT'S NOT RIGHT.
YES, PRINCE BRUNO!
AHEM. LET'S NOT STAND ABOUT CHATTING.
WE NEED TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT PROBLEM.
YES, PROFESSOR BRUNO!

THANK YOU, PRINCE BRUNO. TRULY.
THANK YOU FOR TEACHING US!
AH, NOT AT ALL... I STILL HAVE MUCH ROOM FOR IMPROVE-MENT.

WHEE!
HEE HEE!
WHY, YOU!
WAAH!
HAAH..
YEAH, I LIKE PROFESSOR HEINE BETTER.
HE SAYS TOO MANY COMPLICATED THINGS.
HMMM... I GIVE 'IM FIFTY-FIVE POINTS.
OUTTA ONE HUNDRED!

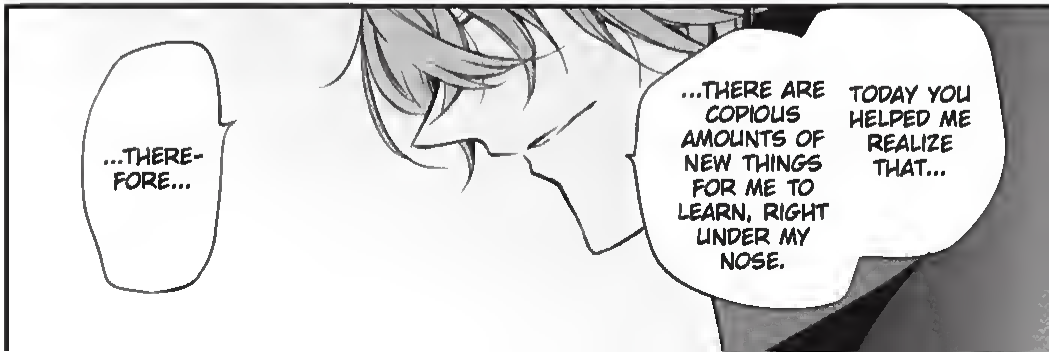
TEACH US AGAIN, OKAY...?
WITH PROFESSOR HEINE!
BUT YOU CAN COME BACK, YOU KNOW!

.....
YES. I CERTAINLY WILL!

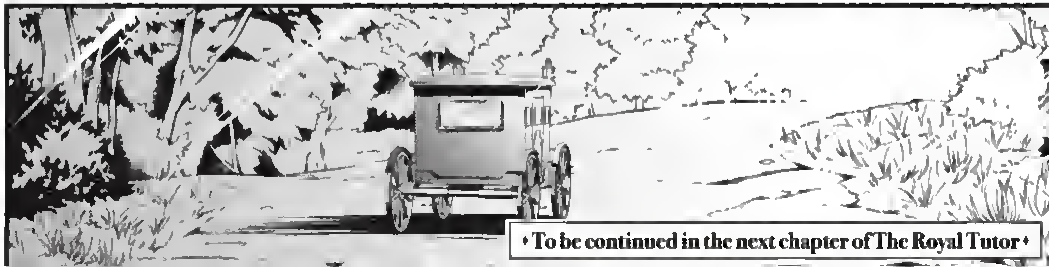


HA-HA-HA! IT IS TEMPTING, I ADMIT.
OH? ARE YOU GOING TO PURSUE THE PROFESSION?
...MUST BE REWARD-ING.
...THE WORK OF A TUTOR...

WHICH-EVER PATH I TAKE...
...I HAVE MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT DEALING WITH PEOPLE.


TODAY YOU HELPED ME REALIZE THAT...
...THERE ARE COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF NEW THINGS FOR ME TO LEARN, RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE.
...THERE-FORE...

SHFF
...TO LEARN... FROM...
I LOOK FOR-WARD...
...TO CONTINU-ING...
PRINCE BRUNO?
IT SEEMS HE'S HIT HIS LIMIT.
...A FULL DAY'S WORK ON LITTLE SLEEP...



◆ To be continued in the next chapter of The Royal Tutor ◆

The Royal Tutor Chapter 32

Higasa Akai

Translation: Amanda Haley • Lettering: Abigail Blackman

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